Criteria for promotion of Group C Officers belonging to SC/ST category

4613. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the case of promotion made for Group 'B' post/services from Group 'C', separate lists should be drawn up of the eligible SC/ST officers arranged in order of their *inter-se* seniority in the main list and adjudged by the D.P.C. Separately in regard to their fitness;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the criteria for the promotion of Group 'C' SC/ST officers to Group 'B'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) In terms of the DPC guidelines issued by Department of Personnel and Training, where promotion from Group 'C' to posts in Group 'B' is by method of selection, if candidates from SC/ST obtain on the basis of merit with due regard to seniority on the same basis as others, lesser number of vacancies than the number reserved for them, the difference is made up by selecting candidates of these communities who are in the normal/ extended zone of consideration, as the case may be **irrespective of merit and bench mark** but who are considered fit for promotion. Whether or not general category and SC/ST candidates from the zone of consideration are to be placed in separate lists for consideration in the DPC is a matter of procedure as long as the select list is prepared as per the above principles.

Extending CSS Cadre Restructure Recommendatins to CSSS

4614. SHRI KARNENDU BHATACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1325 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th November, 2001 and State:

(a) whether the Committee of senior Officers has since submitted its report;